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Preface

Coding, Cryptography, and Computer Security

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On 3–7 August 1998, the Workshop on Coding Theory, Cryptography, And Computer Security was held at the University of Lethbridge in Alberta, Canada. The keynote lecturers were Charles Colbourn (University of Vermont) on cryptography, Jennifer Seberry (University of Wollongong) on computer security, and Vladimir Tonchev (Michigan Technological University) on coding theory. Invited and contributed lectures were also presented by researchers in these fields. Participants were invited to submit research papers based on their presentations, and these were strictly refereed to select the nine papers included here.

The workshop was organized by Hadi Kharaghani and Wolf Holzmann. Major sponsors of the workshop were the University of Lethbridge and the Pacific Institute for the Mathematical Sciences (PIms), and support was also received from Royal Bank Financial Group, VeriSign Inc,. and the Bank of Montreal. We thank the speakers for their excellent presentations and papers, the organizers and their many helpers for a productive and enjoyable workshop, the sponsors for making the workshop possible, the referees who ensured that the selected papers meet the highest standard, and the very capable support from Peter Hammer and Nelly Segal in arranging for refereeing of the editors' papers and in preparing this collection.

This collection contains nine papers spanning the subject areas of the workshop. Six of the nine concern Hadamard, weighing, and orthogonal designs, which formed a central theme of the workshop. The remaining three represent recent advances in coding theory, cryptography, and combinatorial design theory. The confluence of research in combinatorics, computation, algebra, geometry, and codes formed a main focus of the workshop, and is well demonstrated by the papers included here. We hope the readers enjoy them as much as we have.

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